

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 764 - SB 819

February 24, 2017

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) to transfer potential Water Quality Control Act (WQCA) violation cases to the Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) for investigation. Requires TWRA to notify TDEC and the Department of Agriculture (DOA) after receiving complaints, or if TWRA personnel become aware of potential water quality violations on agriculture property, and requires TDEC investigations on agricultural property to be conducted in consultation with DOA. Prohibits TWRA from investigating Water Quality Control Act violations.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- The proposed bill requires potential WQCA violation cases be transferred from TWRA to TDEC for investigation. TDEC currently investigates such cases; therefore, this bill will not increase the number of cases that will be investigated by TDEC.
- Currently, TDEC notifies DOA of alleged water impact violations associated with agricultural activities; therefore, any impact due to requiring TDEC to consult with DOA involving agricultural property investigations is estimated to be not significant.
- The provisions of this bill essentially codify the current practices of the TDEC; as a result, the fiscal impact of the bill is estimated to be not significant.
- This bill will not prohibit TWRA personnel from investigating cases where pollution of water results in injury to aquatic life, or the destruction of habitat for aquatic life.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista M. Lee".

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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